Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

USMISSION USBERLIN

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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CONFIDENTIAL STATE 172467

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: BQG, PGOV

SUBJECT: ANOTHER SOVIET APPROACH ON PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO BERLIN

REF: A) STATE 87696; B) BONN 9512; C) BONN 9928 (EXDIS NOTAL); D) USBERLIN 853

1. DURING A CALL ON THE SECRETARY ON OTHER BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL

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ON JULY 6,SOVIET AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN DELIVERED AN ORAL PROTEST ON FRG OFFICIALS ACCOMPANYING PRESIDENT CARTER ON HIS VISIT TO BERLIN. THE COURTESY TEXT OF STATEMENT PROVIDED BY SOVIETS IS REPORTED BELOW.

2. DEPUTY ASST SECY LUERS RESPONDED TO DCM VASEV JULY 7 THAT: 1) THE PRESIDENT'S ITINERARY AND WHO MAY

ACCOMPANY HIM TO BERLIN ARE NOT MATTERS RESTRICTED BY THE QA; 2) THE US IS FULLY AWARE OF ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE QA AND WILL CONTINUETO RESPECTFULLYTHE LETTER AND SPIRIT OF THE AGREEMENT; AND 3) IN ANY EVENT, IT IS QUITE PROPER FOR FEDERAL OFFICIALS TO ACCOMPANY VISITORS TO WEST BERLIN BECAUSE OF THE TIES BETWEEN THE FRG AND BERLIN AND BECAUSE OF THE FRG'S ACCEPTED ROLE IN REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF WEST BERLIN IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

VASEV REPLIED THAT HE HAD NOTHING TO ADD ON THE QUESTION.
HE SAID THAT THE POSITIONS OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WERE
AT VARIANCE ON THE MATTER AND THAT WE ARE IN DISAGREEMENT.

3. TEXT OF SOVIET STATEMENT:

"ACCORDING TO AVAILABLE INFORMATION CERTAIN CIRCLES OF THE FRG CONTINUE TO TRY TO PRESENT THE VISIT TO WEST BERLIN BY PRESIDENT CARTER, SCHEDULED FOR JULY 5, AS A PART OF HIS STATE VISIT TO THE FRG. IT HAS BECOME KNOWN, IN PARTICULAR, THAT HIGH GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIALS OF THE FRG ARE GOING TO ACCOMPANY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES DURING HIS VISIT TO WEST BERLIN IN THEIR OFFICIAL CAPACITY.

AS WE ALREADY NOTED IN OUR COMMUNICATION TO THE US SIDE CONFIDENTIAL.

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ON MARCH 29, SUCH ACTIONS OF THE WEST GERMAN SIDE DIRECTLY CONTRADICT THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT, ABOVE ALL, THE PRINCIPLE STATED IN IT THAT WEST BERLIN DOES NOT BELONG TO AND IS NOT GOVERNED BY THE FRG. AS IS KNOWN, THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT PROHIBITS OFFICIALS AND STATE BODIES OF THE FRG TO PERFORM IN THE CITY CONSTITUTIONAL OR OFFICIAL ACTS. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE PROVISIONS OF THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT WOULD, NATURALLY, COMPLICATE ITS NORMAL FUNCTIONING AND WOULD BE FRAUGHT WITH THE RISK OF UNNECESSARY FRICTIONS AROUND WEST BERLIN.

THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD LIKE ONCE AGAIN TO EXPRESS HOPE THAT NECESSARY MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN BY THE US SIDE IN ORDER TO PREVENT SUCH COURSE OF EVENTS WHICH WOULD NOT SERVE THE INTERESTS OF MAINTAINING CALM SITUATION IN THAT AREA.

OF COURSE, THE RIGHT OF THE US PRESIDENT TO VISIT WEST BERLIN IS NOT QUESTIONED HERE. THE MATTER IS THAT SUCH VISITS BE NOT ABUSED TO THE DETRIMENT OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING REACHED BY THE FOUR POWERS IN CONCLUDING

THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT.

IT SHOULD BE RECALLED THAT THE PARTIES TO THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT ASSUMED THE OBLIGATION TO PROMOTE THE ELIMINATION OF TENSION AND THE PREVENTION OF COMPLICATIONS AROUND WEST BERLIN. THE SOVIET SIDE STRICTLY ADHERES TO THESE OBLIGATIONS IN ALL ITS ACTIONS CONCERNING THAT CITY. IT HAS A RIGHT TO EXPECT THAT THE PARTNERS OF THE SOVIET UNION IN THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT, INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES, WOULD ACT LIKEWISE." VANCE

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